

# FORT&RRA

CREATING GREAT COMMUNITIES  
*and* CONSERVING GREAT LANDS

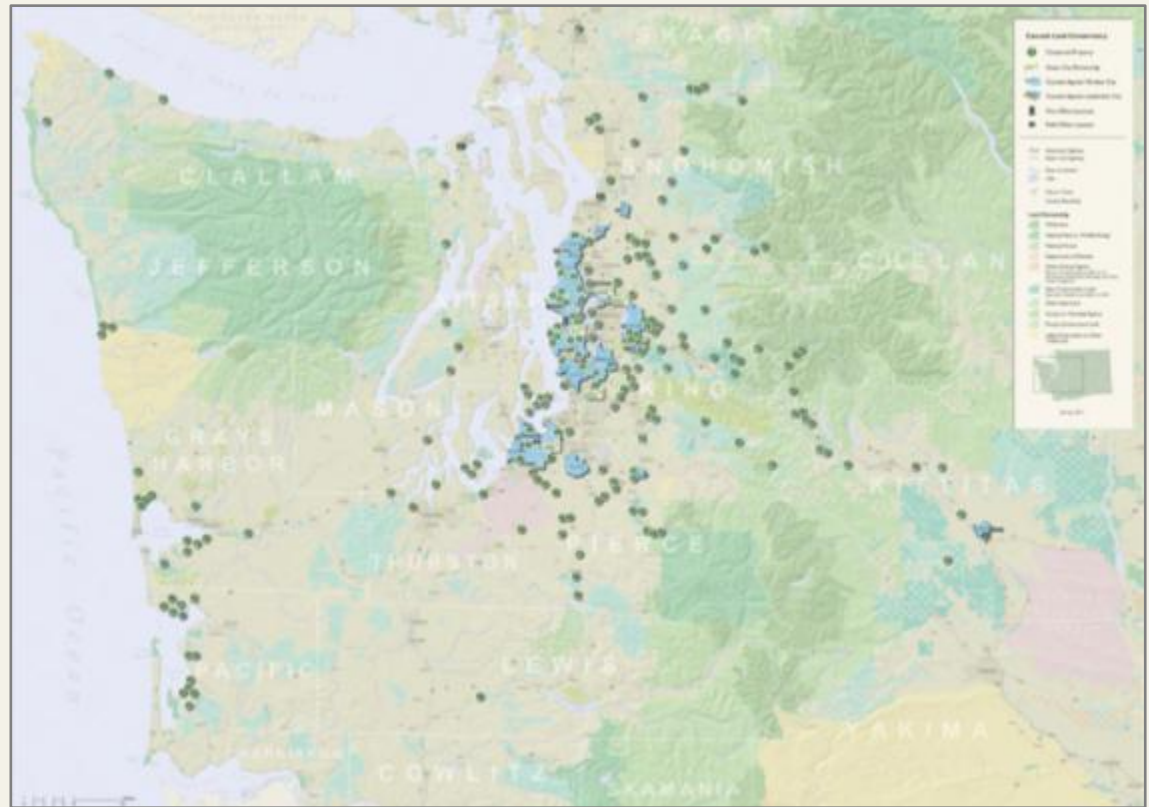
## Ensuring a sustainable future for Puget Sound farmlands

Joint Legislative Committee on Economic  
Development and International Relations -  
July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014

# About Forterra

Conserved over  
230,000 acres

Partner with  
communities  
across the state



# Our Approach

## Traditional Model

- Conservation is anti-business
- Preserved land is “LOCKED UP” forever
- Cities and people are the problem
- Conservation is adversarial

## New Model

- Conservation is **pro-business**, pro-community, pro-environment
- Conserved land **continues to contribute** to economy and environment
- Cities and people are **the solution**
- Conservation is **collaborative**

# Conserving Great Lands



# Conserving Great Lands

- Purchase outright with public and private funds
- New financing resources
- Ecosystem services





# Transitioning farmland to the next generation

## Matlock Farm objectives:

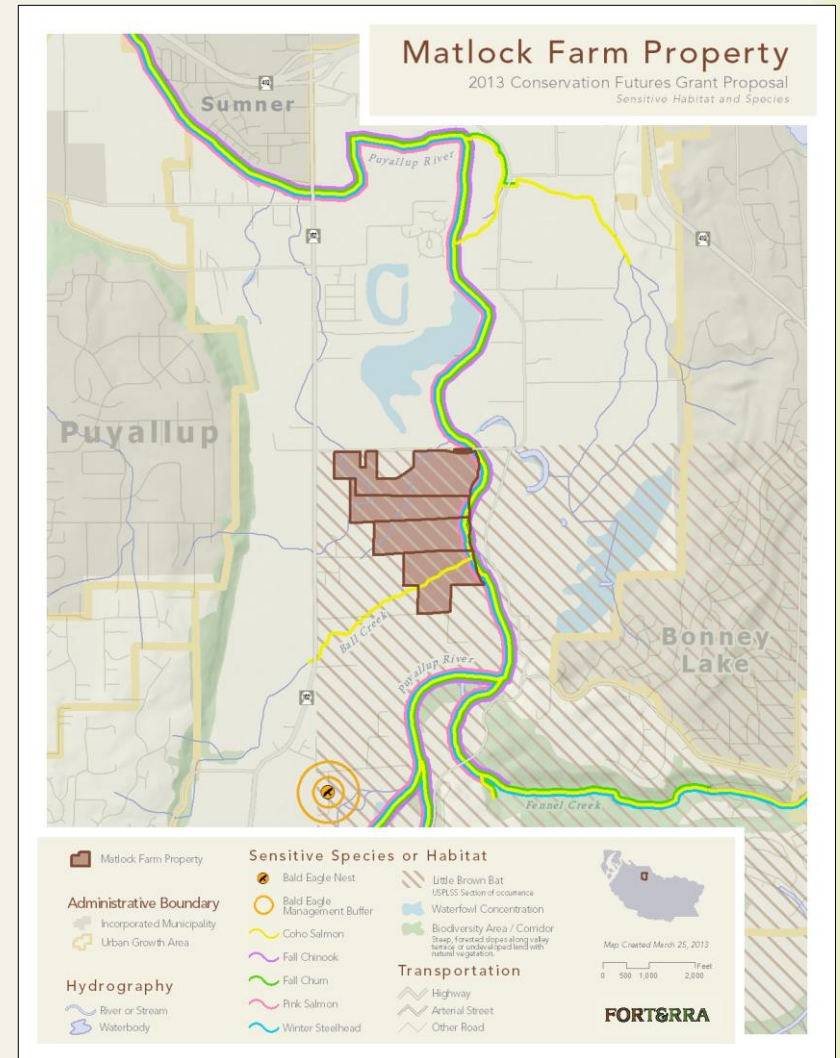
1. Conserve the farmland
2. Balance farmland conservation with salmon habitat & water quality restoration
3. Transfer property to next generation of farmers



# Transitioning farmland to the next generation

What makes it special:

1. Large, productive farm property
2. Flood control and water quality
3. Salmon habitat
4. Proximity recreation infrastructure



# Transitioning farmland to the next generation

## Available resources:

1. Department of Ecology, Floodplains by Design - \$525,000 grant awarded in May, 2014
2. Pierce County, Conservation Futures - \$1.1 million grant awarded in October, 2013
3. Pierce County, Surface Water Management - \$300,000 appropriation for 2014 fiscal year





# Transitioning farmland to the next generation

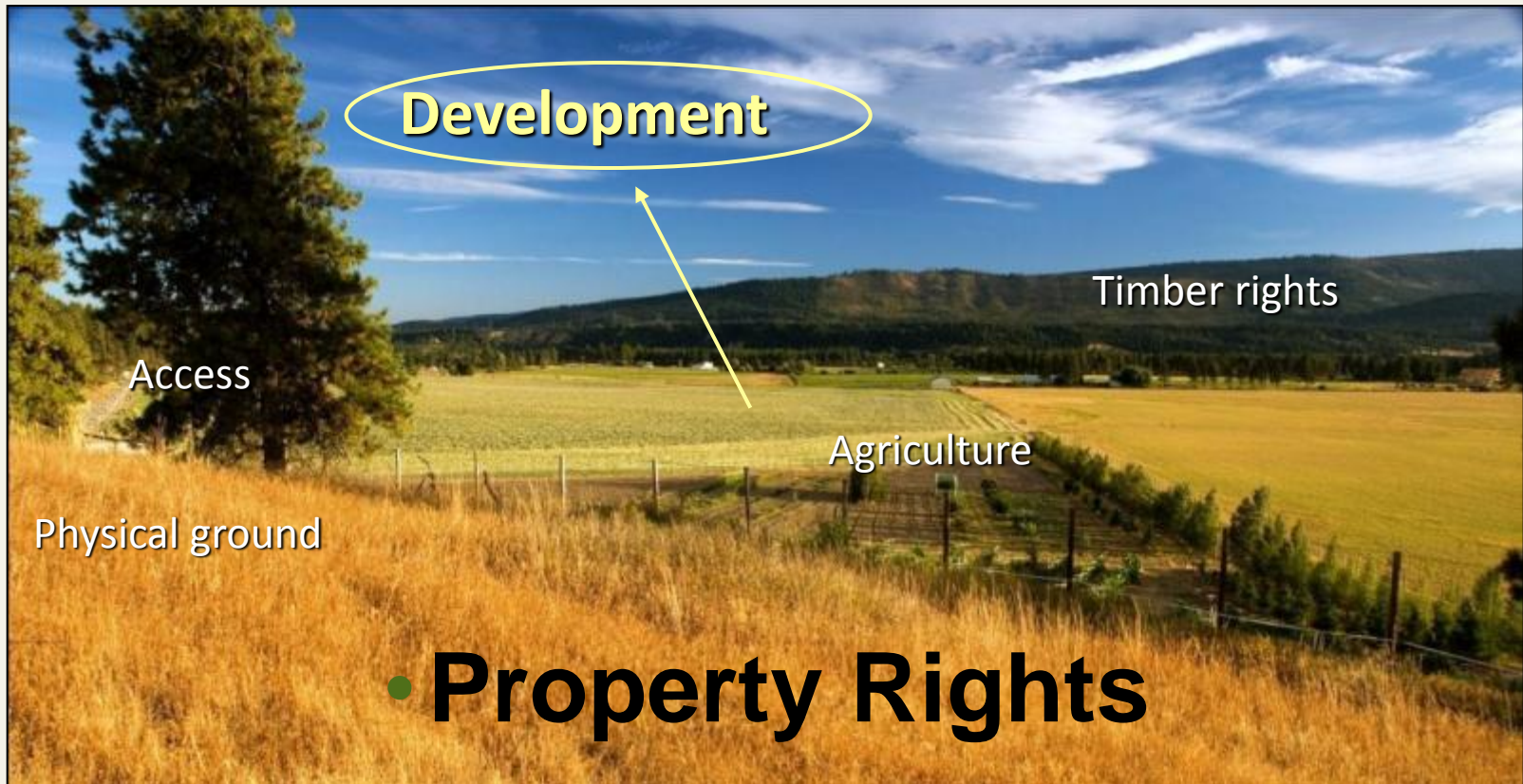
## Putting the pieces together:

1. Pierce County to purchase development rights
2. County to purchase ~25 acres of riparian buffer for flood control, water quality, and salmon habitat
3. The agricultural land will be purchased by farmers, who will continue to manage the property as a working farm



# Basics of TDR

- Property rights are more than just physical property
- Development potential can be separated and transferred



# Transfer of Development Rights (TDR)





## **Farmland for the next generation**

What's needed:

1. Provide programs and incentives to conserve farmlands
2. Link next generation of farmers to available lands, and make them affordable
3. Develop infrastructure to ensure that agribusiness can be successful





# Thank you



Jordan Rash, Conservation Director

[jrash@forterra.org](mailto:jrash@forterra.org)

[www.forterra.org](http://www.forterra.org)